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ABSTRACT

A step-back eliminating tapered dental cutting instrument for improved root canal treatment and a method of root canal therapy in which the instrument includes a first tapered working portion having spiral-shaped cutting edges which define a first tapered angle, and a second tapered working portion having spiral-shaped cutting edges which define at least one second tapered angle. The second separate tapered angle may have a compound curve taper steeper at the distal ^{tip} of the instrument. The root canal therapy method which eliminates the step-back procedure includes the step of using a series of progressively increasing diameter dental cutting tools, each having a first tapered portion at one taper angle, and having a second tapered portion at another steeper angle, which is steeper than the first taper portion, and using each progressively larger diameter dental cutting tool to the same working depth of the previous tool so that a rapid decrease in diameter is achieved at the apical orifice of the root canal.